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Item 13 (g)
Economic and environmental questions: public administration and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Luis-Alfonso de Alba (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration at its eleventh session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2002/40 of 19 December 2002, 2003/60 of 25 July 2003, 2005/3 of 31 March 2005, 2005/55 of 21 October 2005, 2006/47 of 28 July 2006, 2007/38 of 4 October 2007, 2008/32 of 25 July 2008, 2009/18 of 29 July 2009, 2011/2 of 26 April 2011 and 2011/22 of 27 July 2011, all on public administration and development,

Referring to General Assembly resolutions 50/225 of 19 April 1996, 56/213 of 21 December 2001, 57/277 of 20 December 2002, 58/231 of 23 December 2003, 59/55 of 2 December 2004 and 60/34 of 30 November 2005, all on public administration and development; and resolutions 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 4 December 2009, 65/141 of 20 December 2010 and 66/184 of 22 December 2011, all on information and communication technologies for development,

Recognizing the work of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration in providing policy advice and programmatic guidance to the Economic and Social Council on issues related to governance and public administration in development,

Taking note of the support being provided by the United Nations Programme on Public Administration and Finance to countries on institutional and human resource capacity development, electronic and mobile government, and citizens' engagement in managing development programmes,

Underscoring the centrality of transparent, accountable, inclusive, efficient, effective and equitable public administration in the process of development,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the conclusions and recommendations of the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its eleventh

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session[1] on local public governance and administration for results, particularly the special emphasis on the role of citizens' engagement, human capital development, including training and education of public servants, and fair allocation of resources in strengthening governance at all levels, particularly the local level;

2. *Reaffirms* that "good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger",[2] and encourages Member States to continue to support capacity development in public governance and institution-building at all levels, with a view to accelerating progress towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Invites* the Committee of Experts on Public Administration, in the framework of the preparations for its twelfth session, to study the effect of specific practices in responsive and inclusive public governance on development, bearing in mind the need to promote high standards of public sector integrity, transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness, at national and local levels, promote equal access to public services and provide opportunities for all people to participate in the conduct of public affairs, and requests the Committee to convey the outcome of the study to the Council through its twelfth report in April 2013 with a view to assisting the process of preparing for deliberations on a post-2015 development agenda;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue:

(a) To increase the scope and depth of its online and offline capacity development training and to further develop its Public Administration Country Studies, which contain country statistical data and analytical and case studies, with the aim of better assisting countries in redefining, reforming, strengthening and innovating their public administrations in general, and public service delivery in particular, according to their needs;

(b) To give due recognition to innovative public sector initiatives by Member States through the promotion and the strengthening of the United Nations Public Service Day and the United Nations Public Service Awards;

(c) To support the development of the United Nations Public Administration Network for partnership-building, knowledge dissemination and the exchange of best practices and lessons learned in the area of public administration;

(d) To assist the implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society on issues related to electronic and mobile government;

5. *Invites* Member States and other institutional donors to consider contributing to the relevant trust funds of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, for extending its capacity-building programmes and outreach activities, as appropriate.

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[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2012, Supplement No. 24* (E/2012/44).

[2] General Assembly resolution 65/1, para. 11; other clauses related to citizens' engagement can be found in paras. 23 (a), 23 (c) and 23 (g) of the same resolution.